

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: : Confirmation No.: 7530  
:   
**Vijay K. BHAGAVATH et al.** : Attorney Ref.: 1999-0494-Con  
:   
Serial No.: 10/824,663 : Art Unit: 2623  
:   
Filed: April 24, 2004 : Examiner: Jivka Rabovianski  
:   
FOR: NETWORK-BASED SERVICE TO PROVIDE ON-DEMAND VIDEO  
SUMMARIES OF TELEVISION PROGRAMS

## DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.131

Honorable Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks

Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Sir:


We, Vijay K. Bhagavath, Robert Edward Markowitz, and Joseph Thomas O'Neil, have reviewed and understand the following statements. We hereby declare that the following statements are true based on information and belief we believe to be true, with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon:

1. We conceived the invention of network-based service to provide on-demand video summaries of television programs at least as of 13 August 1999 as shown by an internal patent review document. A copy of this document is attached as Exhibit A.

2. On 23 August 1999, Vijay Bhagavath emailed the internal patent review document and a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation related to the invention to Joyce L. Burns of AT&T for patent review. A copy of this email is attached as Exhibit B.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vijay K. Bhagavath

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Edward Markowitz

11/02/2009  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph Thomas O'Neil

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Exhibit A

file:///A:\temp\ed

1999-0494

Patent Review:

SUBJECT: A Network-Based Service to Provide  
On-Demand Video Summaries of Television Programs

OBJECTIVE: (WHAT problem does the proposal solve or what purpose  
does it serve?)

This invention provides a new service for customers who receive  
television programming from AT&T.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: (1. What is it? 2. How does it operate?  
Rely on attachments for detailed description)

This invention allows customers who receive television  
programming on cable or xDSL access links to view  
"video summaries". A summary is an abbreviated version of  
a program. It may contain audio, snapshots, and full-motion  
video that have been extracted from a program. Alternatively,  
the content of a summary may be independent of the content of  
its associated program.

Some key features of this invention are: (1) A customer can view  
several summaries to choose a program for viewing. (2) "Video  
hyperlinks" allow a customer to efficiently view a segment from  
a program that is associated with a segment from a summary.  
(3) "Interrupted viewing" allows a customer to view a summary of  
content that he or she missed during a broadcast. (4) "Live  
summaries" can be incrementally generated during live television  
broadcasts such as the Academy Awards, World Series, and Super  
Bowl. (5) A customer can use a summary to indicate the segments  
of a program that he or she wishes to record.

One embodiment of this invention for cable access requires  
enhancements to the set top boxes (STBs) at the customer premises.  
Specifically, a STB must: (1) receive programs and summaries from  
an AT&T POP, (2) use profile and history information to select the  
program and summary segments to be stored, and (3) provide a user  
interface for this service. Another embodiment of this invention  
uses video summary servers (VSSs) at AT&T POPs to store programs  
and summaries for xDSL customers.

In both embodiments, broadcasters transmit summaries that include  
the information required for the features of this invention. This  
is accomplished by using the capabilities outlined in the MPEG-2  
standards for digital video.

AT&T is uniquely positioned to offer video summaries as a  
network-based service. Customers can be charged for this application  
on a subscription or transaction basis. Television broadcasters can

file:///C:/inetlib

also be charged for the ability to deliver summaries to customers.

(SEE ATTACHED VIEWGRAPHS FOR MORE DETAILS.)

USE: (1. What is the probability of commercial use?

By AT&T? By others?

2. Is it scheduled for use in an AT&T product or service?

3. Which one, and when?

4. Is this idea likely to be adopted by others? If so,  
to what extent? Why?

5. Is it likely to become a standard?

6. Do you see applications for the idea other  
than the one described above?)

1. The probability of commercial use by AT&T and others is high.  
AT&T has spent tens of billions of dollars to acquire cable  
access links to customers. This invention is a value-added  
service that can be offered to those customers.

2, 3. Not yet. (It is a new idea!)

4. Yes. The features in this invention enable a customer to  
efficiently scan and assimilate video information.

5. It is a bit premature to estimate whether the techniques proposed  
in this invention will become a standard. AT&T can partner with  
broadcasters and set top box manufactures so that the ideas in  
this patent can be standardized.

6. The most common application of this invention will be for  
consumer television. However, other applications can be envisioned.  
For example, this technology allows a person to efficiently scan  
any archived form of video.

ECONOMIC IMPACT: (1. What is the expected annual sales  
volume or revenue of products or services to which this  
proposal applies, if used? Please give details.)

TRD

PRIORITY RATING: (1. Originators' consensus rating.

2. Department Head's rating)

IMPORTANT

BUSINESS UNIT INFORMATION: (1. In what Business Unit will  
the invention be used?

2. Who is the business Unit contact person e.g. product  
or service manager?)

The service described in this invention can be deployed  
by the business units that deliver television programming  
to customers.

SUBMITTERS:

1. Vijay Bhagavath, FP 3E33, 973-236-6923, 644-07-3747, 1FPB00000

2. Robert Markowitz, MT 2B05, 732-420-3840, 7, HA2912000

*Vijay Bhagavath*  
*8/12/99*

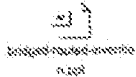
file:///c:/inetlib/

3. Joseph O'Neil, MT D52D12, 732-420-3647, 070-S0-3205, HA2134000

Exhibit B

1999-0494  
Burns, Joyce L - LGA

From: bhagavath@att.com  
Sent: Monday, August 23, 1999 10:54 AM  
To: jbburns@att.com  
Subject: Video Summaries Invention Softcopy



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TBD

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2. Robert Markowitz, MT 2805, 732-420-3640, 7, HAZS12D00
3. Joseph O'Neil, MT D52D12, 732-420-3647, 070-50-3205, HA2134000